

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering a parcel by a carrier to a secure receptacle at a location of an intended recipient, comprising the steps of:

(b) accessing the secure receptacle;

(c) placing the parcel within the secure receptacle;

(d) securing the secure receptacle; and

(e) permitting the carrier to make further deliveries at additional locations after
having placed the parcel within the secure receptacle; and

(f) automatically registering the placement of the parcel within the secure receptacle after the securing step.

2. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1, including the additional steps of:

reading a code on the parcel in response to the securing step; and
storing the code in a memory.

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3. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1, the registering step including the additional steps of:

accessing a remote location by a communication link; and

conveying the placement data to the remote location;

wherein the registering step is in response to and contemporaneously with the securing step.

4. (Original) The method as in claim 1, wherein the secure receptacle has a locked state and an unlocked state, and wherein the accessing step includes the additional step of:

moving from the locked state to the unlocked state in response to an authorized identifier.

5. (Original) The method as in claim 4, wherein the authorized identifier is received from at least one of: a magnetic strip card, a key pad, and a smart card.

6. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1, wherein the secure receptacle has a locked state and an unlocked state, and wherein the securing step includes the additional step of:

moving from the unlocked state to the locked state after receiving the parcel.

7. (Original) The method as in claim 1, including the additional step of generating a log entry in response to the accessing step.

8. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1, including the additional step of generating a log entry in response to the securing step.

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10. (Original) The method as in claim 1, where in the placing step is performed at night.

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